

Boston, April 18, 1836.

Dearest of all women to me -

14 My very dear Helen - Doubtless, you will stare to perceive by this letter, that I am still in Boston. This is the way to be a prompt and faithful lover - husband - father - is it? I who talked of being in Brooklyn on Saturday last, all so expeditiously - all so certainly - behold, here I am as far off as ever! Do you begin to distrust me? Do I begin to slight you? Nay - you think all the better of me - I love you the more dearly: - you, because I am intent upon discharging the duties which I owe to God and man - I, because your acquiescence is so cheerfully and sweetly given, painful though a separation is to us both.

I have indeed been very busy with the paper and other matters since my return; so busy, that I have visited no body, except the Chapman's and Miss Sargeant, and then rather in the way of business. Last evening I was at Miss S's, in company with Mrs. Child and several other friends, and had a very agreeable visit. Miss S. is a most excellent lady - so excellent that it is a pity (don't you think so?) ~~that~~ she is not some good man's wife. She speaks of you affectionately, and will be glad to hear your return to the city. And so will many others. Besides, they are curious to see little George, and to study his phenological developments, if he has any. Whenever I think of this dear babe, my heart flutters like an imprisoned bird, longing to fly over every towering impediment till distance is annihilated, and home, sweet home, is once more regained - then to sing in sweeter strains, making all nature melodious. How does he look now? What is his weight? What new trait has he exhibited? O, the dear, little, precious, mammoth responsibility! How thankful to God ought we to be for such a gift! May he be trained up in the way he should go - for he has been brought into a most perilous world.

Next to hearing from you and the babe, I am anxious to learn how brother Henry progresses, (to use an active Americanism,) but cannot expect to know until my return. He has very many friends in this city, who esteem and admire him, and they long to hear of his complete restoration to health.

It is probable that I shall go to Providence on Wednesday or Thursday, and so endeavor to be by your side (where I ^{am} always happy to be) on Friday noon: it may be, however, that I shall be detained until Saturday morning; if so, I shall take the Pompt ~~line~~ stage.

The annual meeting of the Young Men's Anti-Slavery ^{Society} in Philadelphia takes place on the 27th instant. They have written to me, requesting me to forward a letter, to be read at the meeting. It is somewhat doubtful, whether I shall find time to comply with their solicitation.

Tell bro. Henry that Le Row will have to leave the office for Schenectady in all next week. Who will supply his place, we do not know, but somebody John Cutts Smith is desirous to be his successor. He is a driving hand at business, but not very well qualified to keep accounts in "apple-pie" order.

We have just had a letter from bro. Phelps at New York, stating that Mr. Slade of Vermont had just sent on the agreeable information, that the bill for the admission of Arkansas as a slave State would not get through the House of Representatives, at Washington, short of three or four weeks, and that it will probably create another Missouri excitement. To-day we have had two hundred petitions printed on a letter-sheet, which will be scattered throughout the Commonwealth for signatures, remonstrating against the admission of that State with slavery into the Union.

Bro. May has not yet returned from Scituate. His wife is very lame with a cold, but looks in very good health. Poor woman - she has no one to relieve her of the care of her children, from Sunday morning to Saturday night. Little Joseph resembles his father very strongly. He is not so pretty as our little boy - see how impartial I am in judgment! - But I suppose G. T. has no special beauty in bro. May's eyes, and so our accounts or estimates are about squared.

Boston seems to me more populous and noisy than ever. The streets are crowded continually, and my ears are stunned with the din of enterprise. I wish its moral improvement kept pace with its prosperity.

Yesterday, I went to hear Dr. Channing preach in the forenoon. His sermon was a very excellent one, in vindication of the equality of man, and the duty of attempting to elevate the lowest classes of society to the highest intellectual, social and improvement. He spoke in liberal terms of the working-men. It was, I should think, too republican a dose for his aristocratical congregation.

Mr. Gannett is in Leicester, and is said to be in a very unhappy, an almost distracted state of mind, so as to be unfit to attend to the duties of his office.

Bro. George has written to me here, informing where he boards, and urges me to address the ladies in P. on Thursday evening.

All the Misses Parker, Mr. and Mrs. Drew, (it is probable they will soon be parents,) Mrs. May, bro. Le Row, bro. Knapp, &c. &c. desire me to convey to you and Henry as much esteem as a rail-car can carry.

I trust father's and mother's health has improved since I left, and hope, through the goodness of God, to find you all well on my return. Love abundantly to every one in the family.

Yours, devotedly, Wm. Lloyd Garrison.

Sing.

Mrs. Helen C. Garrison,

Brooklyn,

Connecticut.